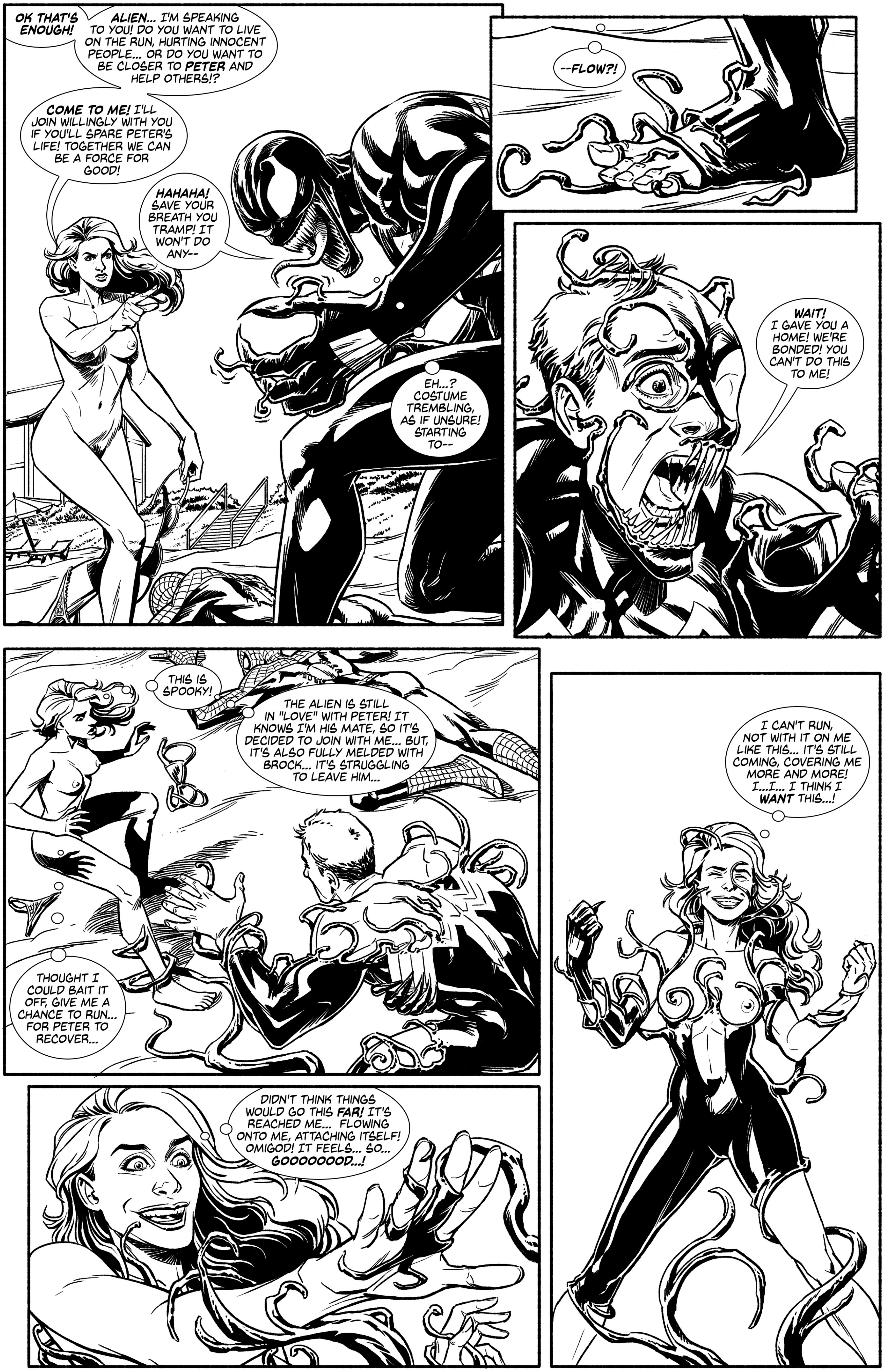
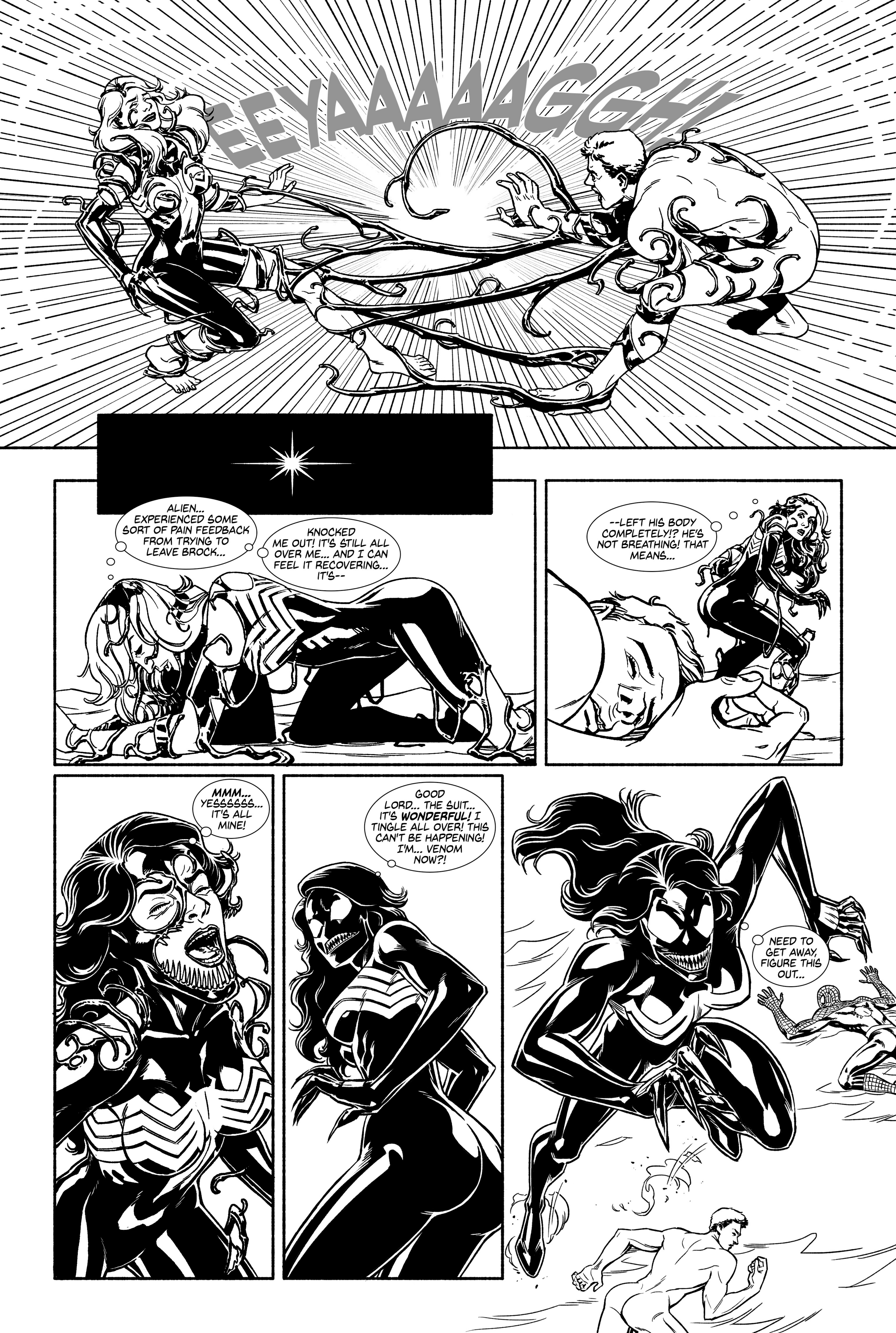
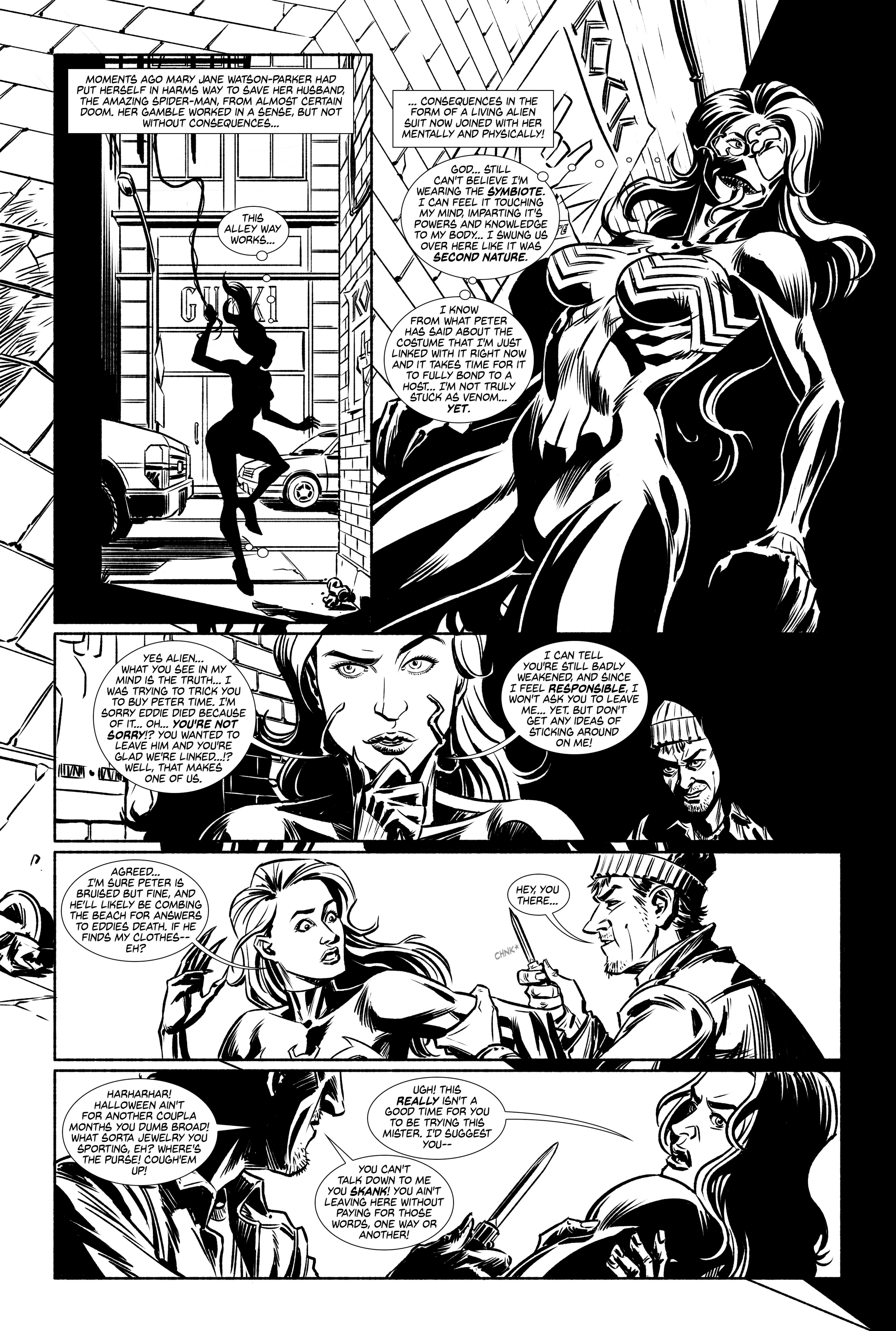
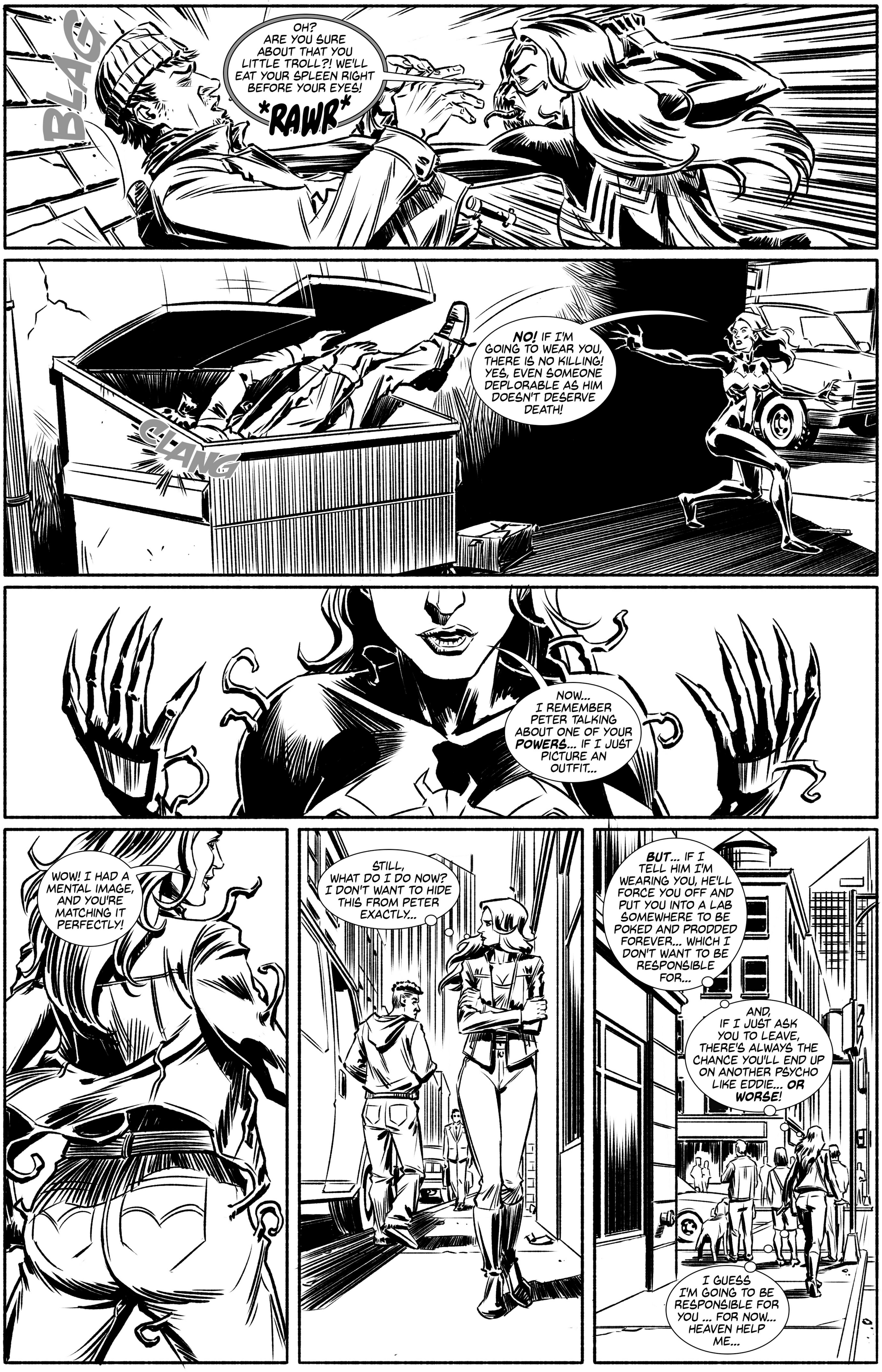
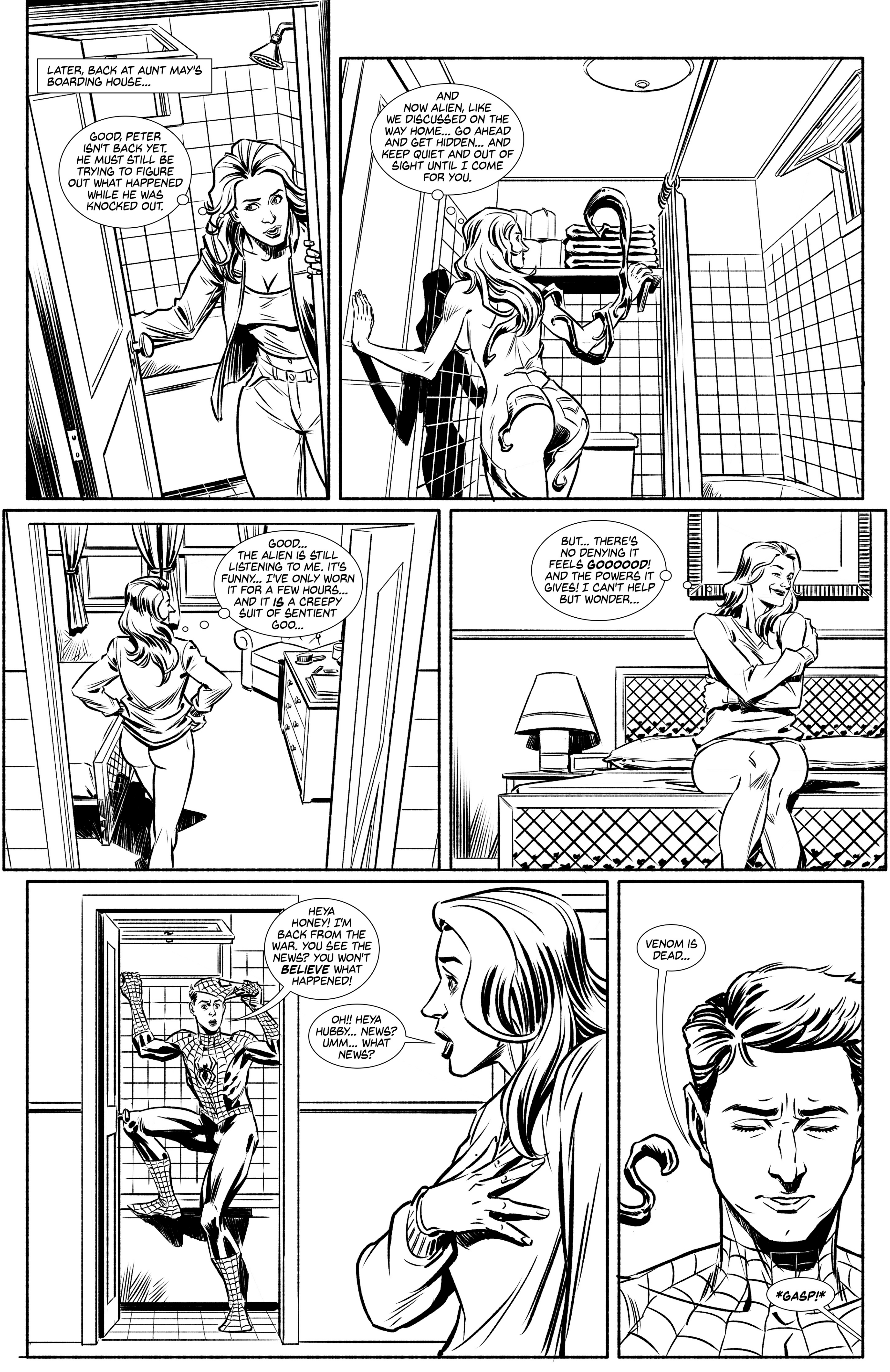
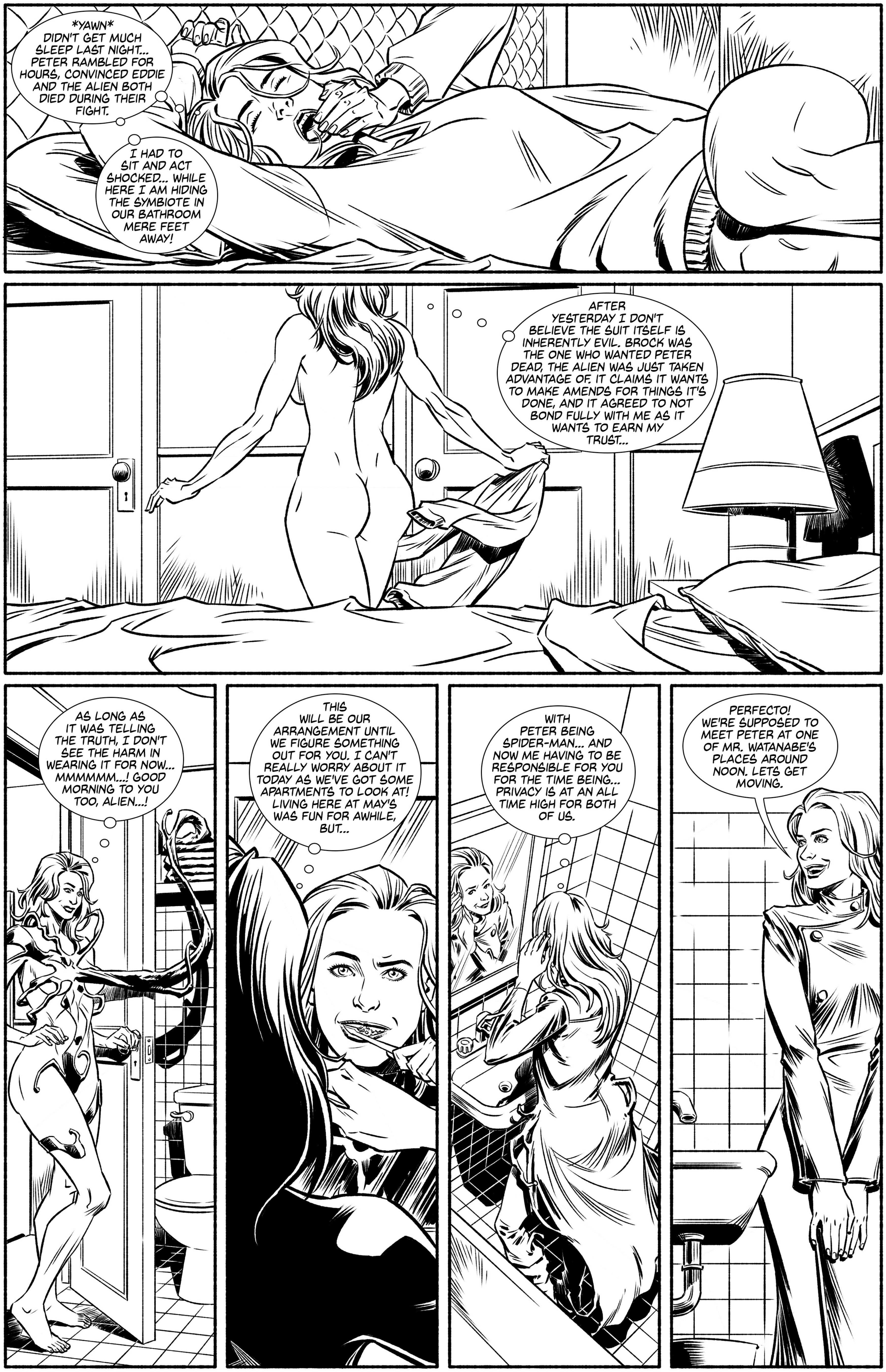

OK THAT'S ENOUGH!
ALIEN... I'M SPEAKING TO YOU! DO YOU WANT TO LIVE ON THE RUN, HURTING INNOCENT PEOPLE... OR DO YOU WANT TO BE CLOSER TO PETER AND HELP OTHERS!?
COME TO ME! I'LL JOIN WILLINGLY WITH YOU IF YOU'LL SPARE PETER'S LIFE! TOGETHER WE CAN BE A FORCE FOR GOOD!
HAHAHA! SAVE YOUR BREATH YOU TRAMP! IT WON'T DO ANY--
EH...? COSTUME TREMBLING, AS IF UNSURE! STARTING TO--
--FLOW?!
WAIT! I GAVE YOU A HOME! WE'RE BONDED! YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!
THIS IS SPOOKY!
THE ALIEN IS STILL IN "LOVE" WITH PETER! IT KNOWS I'M HIS MATE, SO IT'S DECIDED TO JOIN WITH ME... BUT, IT'S ALSO FULLY MELDED WITH BROCK... IT'S STRUGGLING TO LEAVE HIM...
THOUGHT I COULD BAIT IT OFF, GIVE ME A CHANCE TO RUN... FOR PETER TO RECOVER...
DIDN'T THINK THINGS WOULD GO THIS FAR! IT'S REACHED ME... FLOWING ONTO ME, ATTACHING ITSELF! OMIGOD! IT FEELS... SO... GOOOOOOOD...!
I CAN'T RUN, NOT WITH IT ON ME LIKE THIS... IT'S STILL COMING, COVERING ME MORE AND MORE! I...I... I THINK I WANT THIS...!

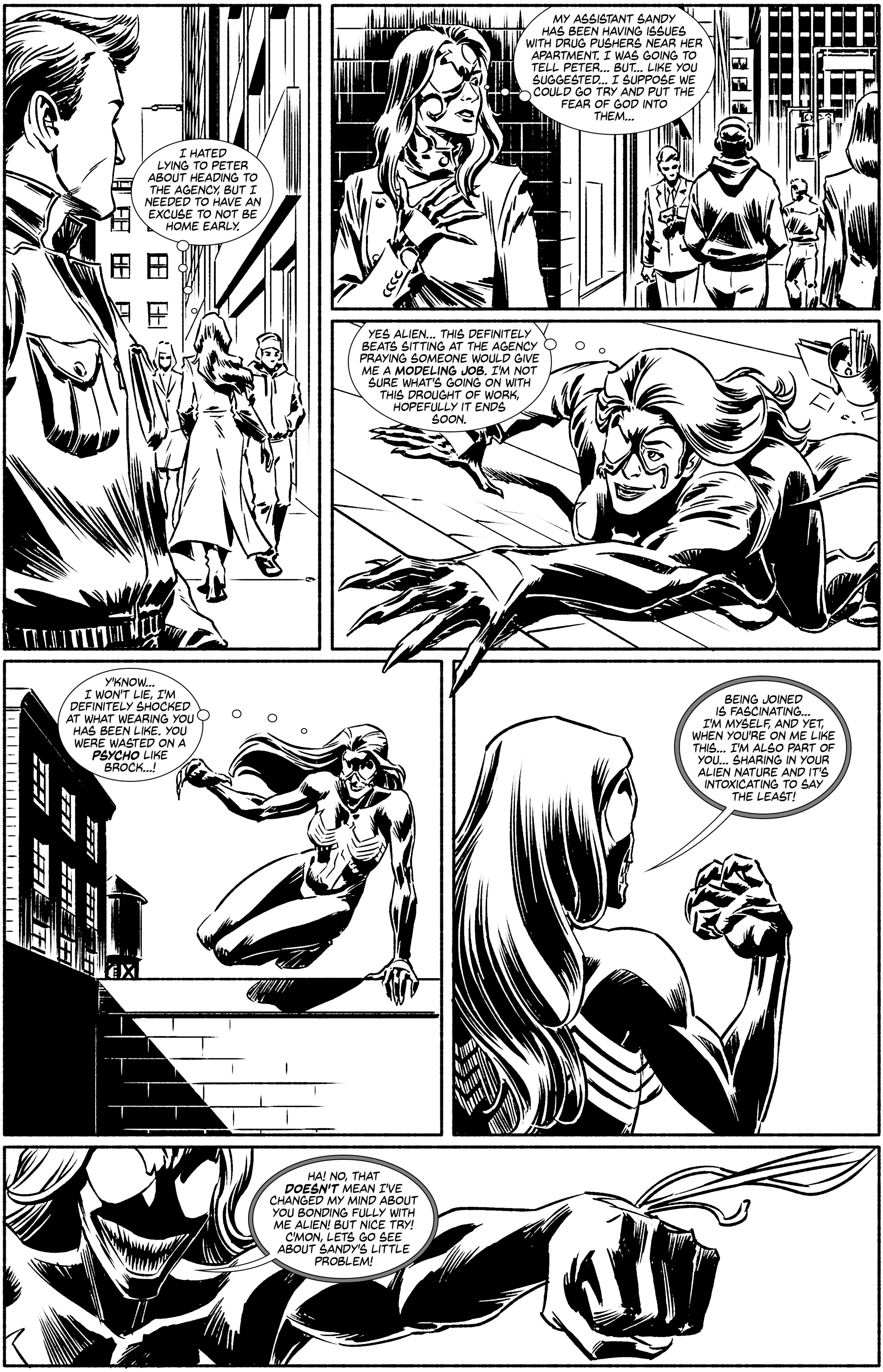

EEYAAAAAAGGH!
ALIEN... EXPERIENCED SOME SORT OF PAIN FEEDBACK FROM TRYING TO LEAVE BROCK...
KNOCKED ME OUT! IT'S STILL ALL OVER ME... AND I CAN FEEL IT RECOVERING... IT'S--
--LEFT HIS BODY COMPLETELY!? HE'S NOT BREATHING! THAT MEANS...
MMM... YESSSSSS... IT'S ALL MINE!
GOOD LORD... THE SUIT... IT'S WONDERFUL! I TINGLE ALL OVER! THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING! I'M... VENOM NOW?!
NEED TO GET AWAY, FIGURE THIS OUT...

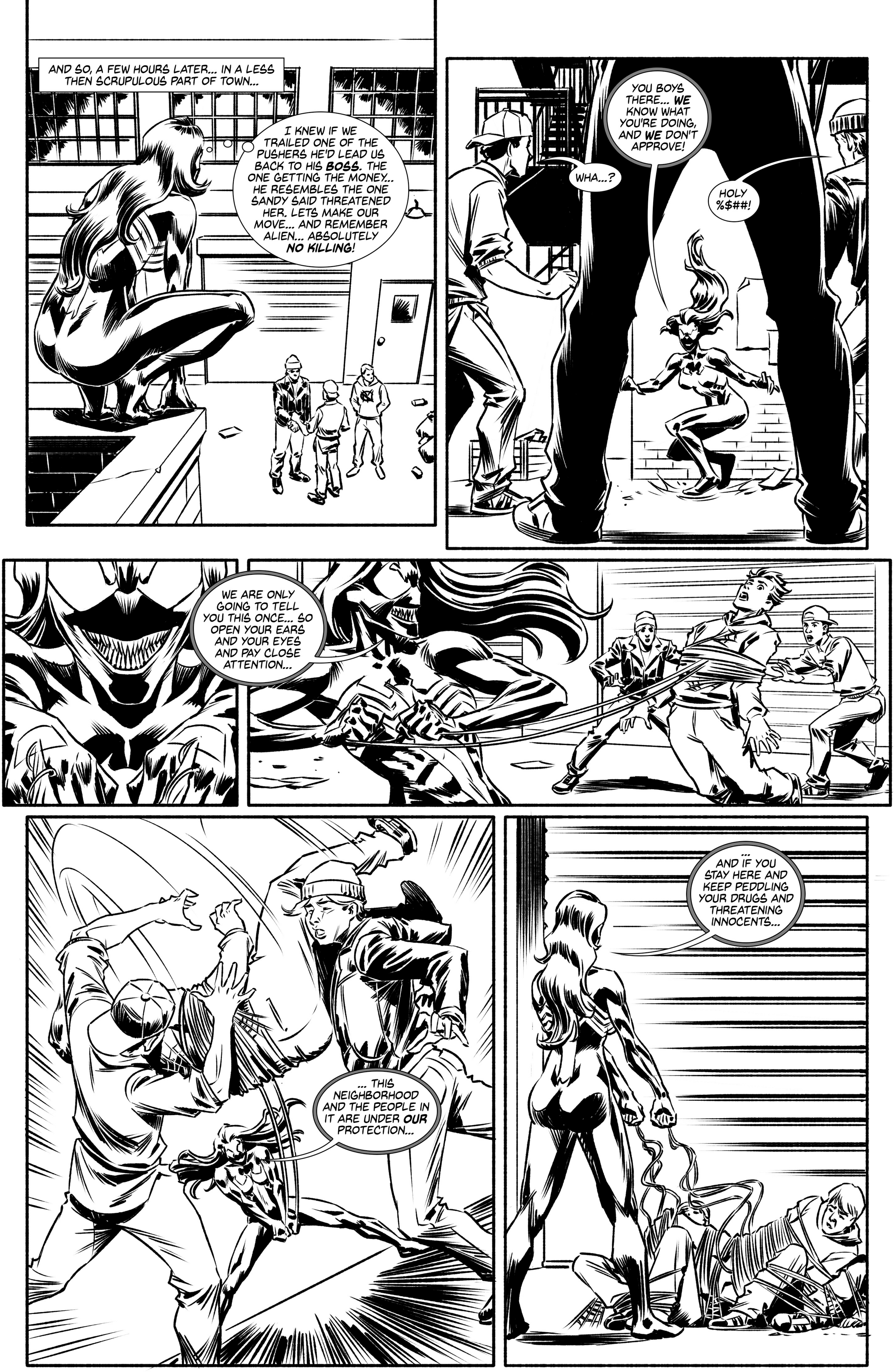

MOMENTS AGO MARY JANE WATSON-PARKER HAD PUT HERSELF IN HARMS WAY TO SAVE HER HUSBAND, THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, FROM ALMOST CERTAIN DOOM. HER GAMBLE WORKED IN A SENSE, BUT NOT WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES...
THIS ALLEY WAY WORKS...
... CONSEQUENCES IN THE FORM OF A LIVING ALIEN SUIT NOW JOINED WITH HER MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY!
GOD... STILL CAN'T BELIEVE I'M WEARING THE **SYMBIOTE**. I CAN FEEL IT TOUCHING MY MIND, IMPARTING IT'S POWERS AND KNOWLEDGE TO MY BODY... I SWUNG US OVER HERE LIKE IT WAS **SECOND NATURE**.
I KNOW FROM WHAT PETER HAS SAID ABOUT THE COSTUME THAT I'M JUST LINKED WITH IT RIGHT NOW AND IT TAKES TIME FOR IT TO FULLY BOND TO A HOST... I'M NOT TRULY STUCK AS VENOM... **YET.**
YES ALIEN... WHAT YOU SEE IN MY MIND IS THE TRUTH... I WAS TRYING TO TRICK YOU TO BUY PETER TIME. I'M SORRY EDDIE DIED BECAUSE OF IT... OH... **YOU'RE NOT SORRY**!? YOU WANTED TO LEAVE HIM AND YOU'RE GLAD WE'RE LINKED...!? WELL, THAT MAKES ONE OF US.
I CAN TELL YOU'RE STILL BADLY WEAKENED, AND SINCE I FEEL **RESPONSIBLE**, I WON'T ASK YOU TO LEAVE ME... YET. BUT DON'T GET ANY IDEAS OF STICKING AROUND ON ME!
AGREED... I'M SURE PETER IS BRUISED BUT FINE, AND HE'LL LIKELY BE COMBING THE BEACH FOR ANSWERS TO EDDIES DEATH. IF HE FINDS MY CLOTHES-- EH?
HEY, YOU THERE...
CHNK*
HARHARHAR! HALLOWEEN AIN'T FOR ANOTHER COUPLA MONTHS YOU DUMB BROAD! WHAT SORTA JEWELRY YOU SPORTING, EH? WHERE'S THE PURSE! COUGH'EM UP!
UGH! THIS **REALLY** ISN'T A GOOD TIME FOR YOU TO BE TRYING THIS MISTER. I'D SUGGEST YOU--
YOU CAN'T TALK DOWN TO ME YOU **SKANK**! YOU AIN'T LEAVING HERE WITHOUT PAYING FOR THOSE WORDS, ONE WAY OR ANOTHER!


BLAG
OH? ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT YOU LITTLE TROLL?! WE'LL EAT YOUR SPLEEN RIGHT BEFORE YOUR EYES!
RAWR
CLANG
NO! IF I'M GOING TO WEAR YOU, THERE IS NO KILLING! YES, EVEN SOMEONE DEPLORABLE AS HIM DOESN'T DESERVE DEATH!
NOW... I REMEMBER PETER TALKING ABOUT ONE OF YOUR POWERS... IF I JUST PICTURE AN OUTFIT...
WOW! I HAD A MENTAL IMAGE, AND YOU'RE MATCHING IT PERFECTLY!
STILL, WHAT DO I DO NOW? I DON'T WANT TO HIDE THIS FROM PETER EXACTLY...
BUT... IF I TELL HIM I'M WEARING YOU, HE'LL FORCE YOU OFF AND PUT YOU INTO A LAB SOMEWHERE TO BE POKED AND PRODDED FOREVER... WHICH I DON'T WANT TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR...
AND, IF I JUST ASK YOU TO LEAVE, THERE'S ALWAYS THE CHANCE YOU'LL END UP ON ANOTHER PSYCHO LIKE EDDIE... OR WORSE!
I GUESS I'M GOING TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU ... FOR NOW... HEAVEN HELP ME...


LATER, BACK AT AUNT MAY'S BOARDING HOUSE...
GOOD, PETER ISN'T BACK YET. HE MUST STILL BE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT HAPPENED WHILE HE WAS KNOCKED OUT.
AND NOW ALIEN, LIKE WE DISCUSSED ON THE WAY HOME... GO AHEAD AND GET HIDDEN... AND KEEP QUIET AND OUT OF SIGHT UNTIL I COME FOR YOU.
GOOD... THE ALIEN IS STILL LISTENING TO ME. IT'S FUNNY... I'VE ONLY WORN IT FOR A FEW HOURS... AND IT **IS** A CREEPY SUIT OF SENTIENT GOO...
BUT... THERE'S NO DENYING IT FEELS **GOOOOOD**! AND THE POWERS IT GIVES! I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER...
HEYA HONEY! I'M BACK FROM THE WAR. YOU SEE THE NEWS? YOU WON'T **BELIEVE** WHAT HAPPENED!
OH!! HEYA HUBBY... NEWS? UMM... WHAT NEWS?
VENOM IS DEAD...
GASP!


YAWN DIDN'T GET MUCH SLEEP LAST NIGHT... PETER RAMBLED FOR HOURS, CONVINCED EDDIE AND THE ALIEN BOTH DIED DURING THEIR FIGHT.
I HAD TO SIT AND ACT SHOCKED... WHILE HERE I AM HIDING THE SYMBIOTE IN OUR BATHROOM MERE FEET AWAY!
AFTER YESTERDAY I DON'T BELIEVE THE SUIT ITSELF IS INHERENTLY EVIL. BROCK WAS THE ONE WHO WANTED PETER DEAD, THE ALIEN WAS JUST TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF. IT CLAIMS IT WANTS TO MAKE AMENDS FOR THINGS IT'S DONE, AND IT AGREED TO NOT BOND FULLY WITH ME AS IT WANTS TO EARN MY TRUST...
AS LONG AS IT WAS TELLING THE TRUTH, I DON'T SEE THE HARM IN WEARING IT FOR NOW... MMMMMM...! GOOD MORNING TO YOU TOO, ALIEN...!
THIS WILL BE OUR ARRANGEMENT UNTIL WE FIGURE SOMETHING OUT FOR YOU. I CAN'T REALLY WORRY ABOUT IT TODAY AS WE'VE GOT SOME APARTMENTS TO LOOK AT! LIVING HERE AT MAY'S WAS FUN FOR AWHILE, BUT...
WITH PETER BEING SPIDER-MAN... AND NOW ME HAVING TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOU FOR THE TIME BEING... PRIVACY IS AT AN ALL TIME HIGH FOR BOTH OF US.
PERFECTO! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET PETER AT ONE OF MR. WATANABE'S PLACES AROUND NOON. LETS GET MOVING.


I HATED LYING TO PETER ABOUT HEADING TO THE AGENCY, BUT I NEEDED TO HAVE AN EXCUSE TO NOT BE HOME EARLY.
MY ASSISTANT SANDY HAS BEEN HAVING ISSUES WITH DRUG PUSHERS NEAR HER APARTMENT. I WAS GOING TO TELL PETER... BUT... LIKE YOU SUGGESTED... I SUPPOSE WE COULD GO TRY AND PUT THE FEAR OF GOD INTO THEM...
YES ALIEN... THIS DEFINITELY BEATS SITTING AT THE AGENCY PRAYING SOMEONE WOULD GIVE ME A **MODELING JOB**. I'M NOT SURE WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THIS DROUGHT OF WORK, HOPEFULLY IT ENDS SOON.
Y'KNOW... I WON'T LIE, I'M DEFINITELY SHOCKED AT WHAT WEARING YOU HAS BEEN LIKE. YOU WERE WASTED ON A **PSYCHO** LIKE BROCK...!
BEING JOINED IS FASCINATING... I'M MYSELF, AND YET, WHEN YOU'RE ON ME LIKE THIS... I'M ALSO PART OF YOU... SHARING IN YOUR ALIEN NATURE AND IT'S INTOXICATING TO SAY THE LEAST!
HA! NO, THAT **DOESN'T** MEAN I'VE CHANGED MY MIND ABOUT YOU BONDING FULLY WITH ME ALIEN! BUT NICE TRY! C'MON, LETS GO SEE ABOUT SANDY'S LITTLE PROBLEM!


AND SO, A FEW HOURS LATER... IN A LESS THEN SCRUPULOUS PART OF TOWN...
I KNEW IF WE TRAILED ONE OF THE PUSHERS HE'D LEAD US BACK TO HIS **BOSS**. THE ONE GETTING THE MONEY... HE RESEMBLES THE ONE SANDY SAID THREATENED HER. LETS MAKE OUR MOVE... AND REMEMBER ALIEN... ABSOLUTELY **NO KILLING**!
YOU BOYS THERE... **WE** KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING, AND **WE** DON'T APPROVE!
WHA...?
HOLY %$##!
WE ARE ONLY GOING TO TELL YOU THIS ONCE... SO OPEN YOUR EARS AND YOUR EYES AND PAY CLOSE ATTENTION...
... THIS NEIGHBORHOOD AND THE PEOPLE IN IT ARE UNDER **OUR** PROTECTION...
... AND IF YOU STAY HERE AND KEEP PEDDLING YOUR DRUGS AND THREATENING INNOCENTS...

WE *WILL* RETURN... AND WE *WILL* EAT YOUR SPLEENS WHILE YOU WATCH!
AHHH!...
MOMMY !!!
AND... IF YOU THINK I'M BLUFFING... YOU'RE WRONG... *DEAD* WRONG...
DID YOU SEE THE LOOKS ON THEIR FACES? THEY WERE *TERRIFIED* OF US! THEY WON'T BE AN ISSUE AROUND THIS NEIGHBORHOOD ANY MORE!
HEY... I JUST REALIZED WE ARE RATHER CLOSE TO A NEW CLUB THAT JUST OPENED DOWN HERE THAT'S SUPPOSEDLY REALLY HOPPING!
WITH HOW THINGS HAVE GONE LATELY, I COULD *REALLY* USE A PROPER NIGHT DANCING...
...AND THANKS TO YOUR QUICK CHANGE POWERS...

...WE CAN GO FROM LATE-NIGHT ALIEN POWERED VIGILANTE...
...TO LATE-NIGHT CASUAL CLUB-GOER IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE!
A FEW ACCESSORIES AND...
...*VIOLA!* NOW WE ARE IN *MY* HABITAT, ALIEN! WAIT TILL YOU SEE HOW FUN DANCING CAN BE!
SHORTLY...
WHERE'VE YOU BEEN, *MJ*? WE'VE MISSED YOU!
I'VE BEEN OUT OF CIRCULATION, BOYS! BUT NOT ANY MORE!
LOOK AT'ER! LUCKY BABE... NOT A CARE IN THE WORLD!
OH YEAH... DID I EVER NEED THIS...

THREE AM. MAY PARKER'S FOREST HILL'S BOARDING HOUSE.
CAN'T BELIEVE HOW *LATE* IT IS. WHEN I DANCE I JUST LOSE TRACK OF TIME I SUPPOSE.
AT LEAST TRAVELING BY ***WEBLINE*** IS FASTER THEN TAKING A CAB FROM THE CITY.
PETER IS PROBABLY HOME AND WAITING UP FOR US. LET'S BE EXTRA CAUTIOUS.
GOOD, HE'S SLEEPING.
OK, GO BACK TO YOUR LITTLE HIDING SPOT ALIEN. I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW.
NOW, IF I CAN BE QUIET AND NOT WAKE HIM...
YAWN
WHE... WHERE'VE YOU BEEN?

SORRY, PETER. I DIDN'T MEAN TO WAKE YOU. I... UH... RAN INTO SOME FRIENDS AND WENT DANCING... I WAS GOING TO CALL YOU, BUT...
YOU'RE NEVER HOME ANYMORE. IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU LOOK FOR *EXCUSES* TO STAY AWAY.
HEY, *LIGHTEN UP*! PARTIES ARE FUN. YOU SHOULD GO TO MORE.
I'D LIKE TO... BUT *ONE* OF US HAS TO WORK FOR A LIVING.
ONE?! YOU THINK I DON'T WANT TO WORK?! THAT I LIKE LIVING IN *ONE CRAMPED ROOM* IN SOMEONE ELSES HOUSE? WELL LISTEN TO THIS BUSTER...
... AT LEAST WHEN I'M DANCING I DON'T WORRY ABOUT SOME COSTUMED GEEK RIPPING YOUR HEAD OFF AND USING IT FOR A BLOODY HOOD ORNAMENT!
HEY, TAKE IT EASY! WE'RE BOTH TIRED...
YES... WHAT I'M TIRED ABOUT IS HOW YOU *REPEATEDLY* TRY TO PUT ME ON A NICE LITTLE SHELF AND THINK I SHOULDN'T HAVE MY OWN LIFE... WELL... LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING...
THE DAY I SAID "*I DO*" IS THE DAY YOU SEEMED TO STOP CARING ABOUT WHAT I WANTED OR CARED ABOUT! SO DON'T YOU DARE TRY TO PREACH TO ME LIKE YOU'RE A SAINT OR SOMETHING! WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A TEAM! I'M NOT SOME TROPHY YOU COME HOME TO!
OK OK... I'M SORRY... LET'S JUST GO TO BED... ALRIGHT?

I WAS WRONG WITH WHAT I SAID. YOU MEAN EVERYTHING TO ME, I WOULDN'T TRY TO RULE YOUR LIFE.
UH HUH. LET'S JUST GO TO BED, ALRIGHT PETER? I THINK ENOUGH HAS BEEN SAID TONIGHT.
A FEW MINUTES LATER...
HAH. HE'S ALREADY FAST ASLEEP AGAIN. I WAS PROBABLY A LITTLE TOO HARSH ON HIM, BUT I DON'T CARE. IF I CAN'T HONESTLY SHARE MY FEELINGS WITH MY OWN HUSBAND THEN THERE'S NO POINT IN BEING MARRIED.
IT'S KIND OF AMUSING TO THINK ABOUT, BUT THAT SYMBIOTE IN THE BATHROOM REALLY IS MY CLOSEST FRIEND RIGHT... NOW?!
THE ALIEN!... WHAT'S IT DOING?!
IT'S ATTACHING ITSELF TO ME...??? BUT... WHY NOW?!...
OH... YOU SENSED MY EMOTIONS... THOUGHT I CALLED OUT TO YOU?

I GUESS I CAN SEE HOW YOU WERE CONFUSED... BUT... I'M FINE. YOU NEED TO LEAVE ME AND GO BACK TO YOUR HIDING SPOT... OK?
THERE YOU GO... AND UH... DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE MIXUP... I'LL SEE YOU IN THE MORNING...
THAT WAS A CLOSE CALL... I NEED TO REMEMBER THAT IT'S ABLE TO READ MY MIND... AND APPARENTLY ACT UPON MY EMOTIONS...
I NEED TO DECIDE WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITH IT. KEEPING IT HIDDEN ISN'T GOING TO WORK FOREVER.
THE ONLY WAY TO ENSURE IT DOESN'T GET PUT INTO SOME CELL FOR THE REST OF IT'S LIFE IS IF I WEAR IT FULL TIME... AND THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE SURE IT ISN'T FORCED AWAY IS IF IT BONDS ITSELF FULLY WITH ME...
THAT ALIEN SUIT... BONDING FULLY WITH ME... THAT'S A *CRAZY* IDEA... RIGHT...?
THAT QUESTION SHAKES MARY JANE TO HER VERY CORE AS SHE DRIFTS OFF TO A TROUBLED SLEEP...

THE NEXT MORNING...
OFF I GO, SWEETHEART. I'LL CALL LATER.
MMMK. YAWN
I HAD BETTER GET UP AND GET GOING MYSELF. THE LATE NIGHT DANCING DEALS WERE WAY EASIER TO GET UP AFTERWARDS WHEN I WAS YOUNGER, THAT'S FOR SURE.
I GUESS I CAN HEAD DOWN TO THE AGENCY AGAIN AND SEE IF ANYTHING POPS UP.
WHO KNOWS? MAYBE I'LL GET LUCKY AND ACTUALLY GET HIRED FOR A CHANGE.
YOU THINK WE SHOULD GO LOOKING FOR CRIMINALS, ALIEN? NOBLE THOUGHT, BUT SADLY IT'D PUT AN HUGE NEON SIGN ON YOU BEING ALIVE. PETER WOULD NEVER STOP LOOKING FOR YOU OUT OF GUILT OF CONSCIENCE OR SOMETHING IF HE KNEW.
NO, FOR NOW WE STILL MAINTAIN OUR LITTLE SECRET PARTNERSHIP. IT'S FOR THE BEST. LET'S GRAB SOME BREAKFAST THEN HEAD DOWNTOWN.

AND SO FEW HOURS LATER, AT THE AGENCY OFFICE...
MRS. WATSON-PARKER... I'M SORRY TO INFORM YOU THE CLIENT HAS DECIDED TO GO IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION.
I SEE... WELL, THANK YOU ANYWAYS.
DAMN IT! I SAT AROUND WASTING MY ENTIRE DAY FOR NOTHING ... AGAIN! I THOUGHT FOR SURE WITH HOW THAT GUY LOOKED AT ME I WAS A SHOE IN FOR THE SHOOT!
THERE HAS TO BE SOMETHING ELSE GOING ON. I'VE NEVER HAD SUCH TERRIBLE LUCK AT FINDING MODELING WORK.
A "DIFFERENT DIRECTION"... HAH!
I'M NOT JUST GOING TO GO HOME AND BE AUNT MAY'S UNDERSTUDY IN HOME ECK. WE MAY AS WELL TRY TO DO SOME GOOD LIKE WE DID THE OTHER NIGHT.
DID EDDIE EVER USE YOU TO DO RANDOM ACTS OF GOOD DEEDS OR WAS IT REVENGE REVENGE REVENGE 24/7?